



Alcona County Board of Commissioners

Alcona County Building
P.O. Box 308
Harrisville, MI 48740

Voice: (989) 724-9410
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May 16, 2012

Mr. Jeff Gray, Superintendent
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary
500 Fletcher Street
Alpena, MI 49707

RE: Expansion of the Sanctuary Boundaries

Dear Mr. Gray:

The citizens of Alcona County believe that by preserving and promoting Michigan heritage we are enriching the quality of life.

Lake Huron is more than just a fresh water resource; it is a historically significant resource in the economic development of the United States of America. The bottomlands of Lake Huron off the Coast of Alcona County are the final resting place of many underwater archaeological sites. These sites are important to the historical legacy of the State of Michigan and the United States of America. By providing access to our cultural legacy, we strengthen the economy of not only Alcona County, but that of our great state.

On behalf of the citizens of Alcona County we appeal to the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary to protect and interpret the historically significant artifacts, which lay on the bottomlands of Lake Huron off the Coast of Alcona County. Additionally we ask that these bottomlands / waters be included in the boundaries of the sanctuary program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K. Boyat", is written over a horizontal line.

Kevin Boyat,
Chairman

Cc:

Congressman Dan Benishek, MD
Senator Carl Levin
Senator Debbie Stabenow
Governor Rick Snyder
State Representative Peter Pettalia
State Senator John Moolenaar